

HOUSE BILL 2941  
By Kelsey

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 36,  
Chapter 1, Part 1, relative to parental rights.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 36-1-113(c), is amended by deleting the word "and" at the end of subdivision (1); by deleting the period at the end of subdivision (2) and substituting instead a semi-colon; and by adding the following language as new subdivisions thereto:

(3) Until a court has filed an order adjudicating whether terminating a parent's, a guardian's or a progenitor's rights is or is not in the best interest of the child, no court shall announce, state, enter or file an order adjudicating whether a parent has engaged in an act, has omitted to act or is in a state of being to have the parent's, guardian's or progenitor's rights in relation to the child terminated for any ground listed in subsection (g); and

(4) If a court files an order adjudicating, by findings of fact and conclusions of law required by subsection (k), that based on clear and convincing evidence the best interest of the child requires that the parent's, guardian's or progenitor's rights not be terminated, then the court shall dismiss the petition to terminate the parent's, guardian's or progenitor's parental rights.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006, the public welfare requiring it.